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TEXT OF RESOLUTION OF EAST GERMAN  
CONFERENCE OF AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES

[Comment: This report presents the full text of the Resolution on Measures and Recommendations of the Fourth Conference of LPG (Agricultural Producer Cooperative) Officials and Activists, as published in Part I of the 2 February 1956 issue of Gesetzblatt der Deutschen Demokratischen Republik, issued irregularly in Berlin as a publication of the Presidium of the East German Council of Ministers.]

At its 25th meeting, the Central Committee of the SED (Socialist Unity Party) resolved to increase production in LPGs (Agricultural Producer Cooperatives) to such an extent that agricultural production and the standard of living in LPGs would surpass that of middle farmers.

The GDR Council of Ministers, which agreed with the resolution, has decreed as follows:

Ministers, state secretaries with ministerial rank, heads of other central state offices, officials of Bezirk and Kreis councils, and mayors are to evaluate thoroughly by 10 February 1956, with all their staffs, the decisions and recommendations of the Fourth LPG Conference and to take the necessary measures for further LPG development.

The following ministers and Bezirk and Kreis council officials shall carry out tasks as indicated:

A. Minister of Agriculture and Forestry

1. Animal Husbandry

a. Measures are to be taken to increase average LPG animal stocks to 60 head of cattle, 124 pigs, 31 sheep, and 250 laying hens, per 100 hectares of land.

b. To achieve this, as well as the creation of individual budgets for LPG members, animals (especially cows and bred heifers) are to be transferred as follows through the HK-ZUN (People-Owned Trade Centers for Breeding and Dairy Cattle) and within the framework of the 1956 animal trade plan:

<u>From Bezirk</u>	<u>To Bezirk</u>	<u>No of Animals</u>
Cottbus	Frankfurt	600
Cottbus	Potsdam	1,400
Dresden	Magdeburg	1,700
Dresden	Potsdam	300
Karl-Marx-Stadt	Magdeburg	1,700
Karl-Marx-Stadt	Halle	1,800
Gera	Halle	1,000

On the basis of delivery contracts made with LPGs, delivery is to take place through the HK-ZUN by 15 December 1956. Included in delivery is a report on each animal's history and geneology.

c. To facilitate trade activities of the HK-ZUN and the selection of suitable animals for LPGs, marketing of cows, bred heifers, and young heifers is to be carried on from March 1956 at intervals of 2-3 months in all Bezirke.

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d. To increase animal production, the following measures are to be taken by the end of 1956:

(1) Twenty percent of all LPG cows are to be registered in stud-books.

(2) Three hundred fifty pedigreed-pig-breeding stations, especially for white breeds, are to be set up as follows in areas under the jurisdiction of animal-breeding inspection centers:

<u>Inspection Area</u>	<u>No of Stations</u>
Rostock, including Bezirke Rostock, Schwerin, and Neubrandenburg	180
Potsdam, including Bezirke Potsdam, Frankfurt, and Cottbus	100
Halle, including Bezirke Halle and Magdeburg	30
Dresden, including Bezirke Dresden, Leipzig, and Karl-Marx-Stadt	20
Erfurt, including Bezirke Erfurt, Gera, and Suhl	20

(3) Pedigreed-poultry-breeding stations are to be set up in 20 more LPGs.

(4) The following numbers of breeding stations for fine-quality wool-producing sheep are to be set up in the animal-breeding inspection areas indicated: Rostock, 13; Potsdam, 12; Halle, 9; Dresden, 4; and Erfurt, 7.

The heads of animal breeding at such breeding inspection centers and zoologists are to give regular advice and help to LPGs.

e. As a means of improving breeds, artificial insemination of at least 60 percent of all cows and at least 30 percent of all ewes in LPGs is to be carried out by people-owned propagation and insemination stations.

f. To improve zoologic counseling for LPGs and train zoological service staffs:

(1) The training and research institutes in Lettin, Bezirk Halle, and in Remderoue, Bezirk Gera, are to be equipped by 1 April 1956 for training zoologists in special questions of animal feeding.

(2) A recommendation is to be worked out by 31 March 1956 for LPGs on the participation of zoologists in premium payments to cattle breeding brigades.

g. A commendation is to be awarded to LPGs if they attain a minimum average (annual) production of 3,500 kilograms of milk containing 3.5 percent butterfat, a stock average of 16 reared suckling pigs per sow annually, and an average of 140 eggs per hen annually; furthermore, they must exceed average Kreis cattle stocks.

h. As a means of strengthening incentives to increase production and develop personal initiative, the present system of awards is to be revised. Norms for state awards are to be established by 15 April 1956 and submitted for confirmation to the Council of Ministers.

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## 2. LPG and MTS Cooperation and Expanded Mechanization

- a. Political and organizational measures for implementing the "Schoenebeck" method are to be taken in all MTS tractor brigades at the beginning of the 1956 spring cultivation period. It is especially important that economic conferences be held in all MTS by 30 April 1956.
- b. To facilitate implementation of continuous operational work methods in work projects, the present distribution of large machines in MTS is to be examined. Depending on the agricultural land area of LPGs and farmers' permanent work groups in MTS areas, the necessary transfer of equipment is to take place by 15 February 1956.
- c. Illustrations, drawn from Bezirke and central offices, in the fields of mechanization, continuous harvest work operations, construction activity, work organization, and MTS assistance are to be thoroughly evaluated and analyzed and the results made known by 30 April 1956.
- d. The qualifications for premium awards for MTS engineering and technical personnel are to be changed; and the following conditions will henceforth be met:
  - (1) Fulfillment of work contracts at the scientifically established periods of time
  - (2) Fulfillment of LPG production goals
  - (3) The maintenance or lowering of costs
- e. By 30 March 1956, departments for lending construction machinery are to be set up in 7 MTS in Bezirk Schwerin, in 10 MTS in Bezirk Neubrandenburg, in 6 MTS in Bezirk Frankfurt, in 3 MTS in Bezirk Potsdam, and in 14 MTS in Bezirk Magdeburg.
- f. To achieve a 50-percent decrease in rural building costs, the following, among others, are to be ensured in collaboration with the Ministry of Construction:
  - (1) That all new agricultural construction be carried out on the basis of standard projects specified by contract.
  - (2) That by 1 February 1956, a central building staff be set up in the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry to coordinate all tasks related to the preparation and execution of construction projects; members of this staff are to include one representative from the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, one from the Ministry of Construction, one from the Ministry of Finance, one from the State Planning Commission, one from the German Investment Bank, and one from the German Farmers Bank.
- g. To carry out 80 percent of all rural construction by 1957 on the basis of standardized projects to permit full mechanization, the necessary technical specifications for standardized projects are to be submitted to the Ministry of Construction by 1 March 1956.
- h. The possibilities for full mechanization with a minimum expenditure in standardized projects already under construction are to be examined and established, in collaboration with the Ministry of Construction and the Ministry of General Machine Building, by March 1956.

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Swedish experiences in the field of rural construction are to be evaluated by 1 June 1956 by the project planning group, to be formed in the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

## 2. Planning and Accounting

a. To facilitate early and careful working out of long-range plans by LPG members, private farmers, MTS, and state administrative staff, a sample plan, complete with instructions and the necessary planning data, is to be issued by 31 January 1956, so that all LPGs may work out long-range plans by 30 June 1956.

b. To economically strengthen those LPGs which are still inadequately developed, a program of production aids is to be set up, to include the following measures:

Subsoiling	75,000 hectares
Calcium fertilization (Gesundkalkung)	100,000 hectares
Complete fertilization of grasslands	50,000 hectares
Fertilizer spreading	100,000 hectares
Plowing over and locally seeding grasslands	20,000 hectares
Construction of 1,000 emergency animal stalls	

By 29 February 1956, a program is to be worked out by MTS, in cooperation with the governing committees of the particular LPGs and villages, on the implementation of the preceding measures, on increasing animal stocks, on the construction of cattle stalls, and especially on the implementation of socialist economic principles.

c. Comparisons of different LPGs in each MTS area are to be worked out by consulting MTS agronomists and zoologists and LPG governing committees, in order to point out the causes for successes and shortcomings in LPG work and to introduce effective measures.

A directive to this effect is to be issued by 15 March 1956 by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, in cooperation with the German Academy of Agricultural Sciences.

d. By 30 June 1956, the bases for executing brigade accounts are to be worked out and published by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, in cooperation with the German Academy of Agricultural Sciences and the LPG College in Meissen.

e. LPG control reports are to be evaluated every 3 months by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, in cooperation with the Ministry of Finance, the German Farmers Bank, agriculture and forestry sections of Bezirk and Kreis councils, and the finance departments of Bezirk and Kreis offices of the German Farmers Bank.

f. A recommendation on participation of LPG (member) bookkeepers in the LPG premium award system is to be submitted to LPGs by 30 June 1956.

g. By 31 March 1956, a recommendation is to be submitted to LPGs on payment of bookkeepers who are in an employed status.

## 4. Cadre and Professional Training

a. In 1956, 10,000 LPG members are to be recruited for participation in groups for training agriculturalists and animal husbandry specialists, 2,800 LPG members are to be recruited for participation in evening courses at technical schools and in courses which will result in the mastery of a particular subject,

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1,000 LPG members are to be recruited for participation in study and correspondence courses which will qualify them as state-examined agriculturalists, and, 10,000 apprentices are to be recruited for training.

b. By 31 March 1956, plans for cadre development are to be made and discussions on development are to take place in all LPGs. In support of these measures, teachers and students of specialized and technical schools and schools of advanced study, as well as MTS agronomists and zoologists, shall report on the advantages of thorough training in LPG membership meetings and support LPG officials in other discussion groups.

c. By 29 February 1956, instruction plans are to be worked out for the establishment of a training group in specialized agricultural work and a 5-month course in bookkeeping, which will ensure a close connection between theoretical instruction and practical application. All other instruction plans are to be examined with regard to the proportion of theoretical and practical material in individual subjects, by 30 April.

d. Two-year evening courses in agriculture and animal husbandry at technical schools are to be set up in 50 percent of all MTS by 30 June, in 80 percent of all MTS by 30 September, and in all MTS by 31 December 1956.

e. As of 1 September 1956, 10-month courses are to be planned in Bezirk LPG schools, which are to be carried out in two terms (of 5 months each for two winters) and which will terminate in a Master of Agriculture degree. During the summer half of the year, courses for specialists are to be given at these schools.

f. By 30 April 1956, three further consultation points for correspondence courses are to be set up to facilitate consultation. As the number of participants increases, consultation points are to be proportionately added.

g. The capacity of the LPG college at Meissen is to be increased to 600 students by the beginning of the school year 1958-1959.

h. The present capacity of special schools for training bookkeepers is to be expanded to 300 students by 1 September 1956, and the length of training is to be uniformly established at 10 months.

#### B. Minister of General Machine Building

1. Departments for installation construction are to be set up in people-owned enterprises for agricultural machinery, implements, and installations for inside work.

These special departments are to take over project planning and the complete construction of technical installations in LPGs.

2. Special technical service groups to guide LPGs in questions of new operation and servicing of all technical installations for inside work, as well as construction control and the supervision of new installations, are to be set up in the people-owned agricultural machine industry.

3. Within the framework of the MTS information service, a permanent consultation section for LPGs is to be set up to handle questions of inside mechanization and the organization of experience exchanges between LPGs in production and consumer fields.

4. Within the framework of the 1956 economic plan and the consumers plan agreed upon by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, the following are to be made available within a definite period: 600 grain and chaff blowers, 1,000 hay and straw blowers, 375 universal conveyers, 600 pneumatic choppers, 168 seed cleaners, and 802 milking installations.

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C. Minister of Coal and Power

1. To improve mechanization and electrification, the electric power connections for LPG buildings erected each year are to be constructed within the framework of the investment program and to be treated as a special, isolated program.

2. By 1 March 1956, collectives to be formed for carrying out this program are to prepare an outline on outstanding electric power lines in the agricultural field, under the guidance of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

According to the plan, the Ministry of Coal and Power, in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, is to take measures by 1 May 1956 for completing power connections which are still outstanding.

3. By 30 September 1956, standards are to be set up as planning bases for LPG, MTS, VEG (people-owned farm), and other electric power needs by the Institute for Power in Halle, in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

LPG power referents are to draw plans for machine utilization according to the method used in the LPG Burgwerben, with the objective of decreasing power usage, by shifting electric power consumption to slow periods from peak load periods.

Bezirk and Kreis power inspectorates and power referents are to provide guidance and support.

D. Minister of Construction

To attain a general 50-percent cost decrease in rural construction, the following measures are to be carried out:

1. On the basis of new technology, a series of standardized construction projects are to be worked out with corresponding variations for different building materials, sites, etc., by 31 October 1956.

2. Plans for standardized projects and supplementary projects for secondary installations (with allowances for geographic conditions) are to be placed at the disposal of LPGs erecting buildings according to authorized standard types, immediately and without cost.

3. Site permits for LPG construction are to be issued only after agreement by the LPG.

4. By 1 March 1956, an order is to be issued on the work methods of construction managers stationed in MTS and on the payment of premiums for shortening construction time and lowering costs through conservation of material and the use of innovator methods.

5. As a model for the use of industrialized building methods (assembling the skeletal structure in the factory), 25 stalls for large animals are to be erected in the northern Bezirke by central enterprises of the Ministry of Construction in 1956.

6. As a model for the use of local construction materials, new constructions for six MTS in the northern Bezirke are to be erected with local building materials by the central enterprises of the Ministry of Construction in 1956.

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7. Best plans for all standardized projects are to be itemized so that the amount of possible individual achievement in both quantity and quality is clearly visible, in order to indicate to LPGs the possibilities of increased self-help and the subsequent savings in building costs.

8. By 1 June 1956, standardized projects are to be adjusted on the basis of mutual observations made by the Ministries of Agriculture and Forestry, of Construction, and of General Machine Building in regard to possibilities for mechanization in agricultural production buildings which are being constructed according to previous plans for standardized projects.

#### D. Minister of the Interior

The recommendations made at the Fourth LPG Conference for improving the work of state administrative offices are to be submitted in the form of an order to the officials of Bezirk and Kreis councils.

#### F. Minister of Public Education

1. The curriculum for schools for general education are to be revised, so that the needs of socialized agriculture and the skills of agricultural production are given special attention and students are educated to respect agricultural work. The new curriculum is to be introduced on 1 September 1956; and at the same time a special subject in applied instruction and garden work is to be initiated in schools. In rural schools two thirds of the material on this special subject will consist of agricultural studies in this field. Within biology instruction plans, agrarian biology, especially in the last grade of general education schools, is to be emphasized.

2. Special instruction for educational work will be given rural school-teachers. So that teachers can give special attention to the needs of socialized agriculture in school, guidance material of the following types is to be published:

- a. The kind of assignments which can be given in accounting instruction in rural schools and which will draw upon examples from agricultural production, the LPG accounting system, etc.
- b. Practical advice on the formation of the rural school curriculum in the German teachers' newspapers and in Ministry of Education publications on methods.
- c. Familiar advice on work in school gardens and on experimental plots.
- d. Reports on the experiences of the best agriculture teachers.
- e. Photographs and examples collected from the central stations of Young Nature List Clubs.

Teachers from educational administrations are to visit rural schools at regular intervals and give teachers concrete instruction in their special work.

3. Physical education and extracurricular sports in rural schools are to be improved. In all rural schools, obligatory athletic games for all children are to be organized on one afternoon a week. The "Traktor" Athletic Society is to support these measures for developing athletics in rural schools by appointing practice directors and by rendering similar assistance.

4. By 1 September 1956, all completely equipped central schools which are located in an MTS area are to be enlarged to middle schools. Preparations are to be made so that by the 1956-1957 school year, at least 35,000 children whose parents are engaged in agriculture, especially children of workers, cooperative farmers, and private farmers, are to be admitted to middle schools.



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5. Teacher training for rural schools is to be decidedly improved. Institutions for teacher training are to include lectures, seminars, and practical training in rural school education. The curriculum for teacher training schools is to be expanded as a result of the introduction of applied agricultural instruction and garden work and is to emphasize the practical needs of agriculture. Teacher training institution newspapers and the cadre commissions appointed by the Ministry of Education are to make efforts to recruit an increasing number of teachers for service in rural schools. In assigning teacher cadres to schools, rural schools are to be given preference.

6. The number of places in rural kindergartens, especially in MTS, MNC, and LPG areas, is to be systematically increased. This year, a minimum of 4,000 additional places are to be created in rural institutions for preschool training.

7. In cooperation with the central council of the FDJ (Free German Youth), the activity of all organizations and work groups for extracurricular training, the "Ernst Thaelmann" Pioneer Organization, and the FDJ is to place more emphasis on agriculture. These organizations, especially as part of vacation plans, are asked to undertake the care of school garden and experimental plots. Additional teams from Young Naturalist groups, Young Agricultural Machine Technician Clubs, and Young Animal and Plant Breeder groups, are to be formed. The purpose of these work groups will be both social and functional, and they are to be organized to help in harvesting, planting work, or in pest control.

8. Teachers are to familiarize pupils, especially in rural schools, with the possibilities in agriculture and to recruit them for rural professions. School administrations and the administrations of socialist agricultural enterprises are to work together closely, enlightening and recruiting students. People-owned agricultural enterprises and LPGs are asked to send recruiting commissions into the schools. Cooperative farmers' children who are not going on to middle or upper schools are to be recruited for training in agricultural professions on a priority basis.

9. In cooperation with rural social organizations, arrangements for sponsorship contracts between socialist agricultural enterprises and educational establishments are to be organized.

Through these sponsorship contracts, the influence of the worker class upon cooperative and private farmers is to be ensured in training and educational work, whereby attention is to be given to the possibilities of material support for educational establishments.

#### G. Minister of Culture

1. In cooperation with Bezirk and Kreis councils and MTS administrations, councils for culture and education are to be formed in MTS by 31 May 1956.

The main purpose of these councils is to ensure uniform and determined planning and guidance in cultural and educational work in villages and brigade bases, and a coordination of work in all cultural establishments and mass organizations. Members of cultural and educational councils should be the best and most active persons in cultural questions in MTS areas.

In cooperation with the Minister of Education, orders to this effect are to be issued by 29 February 1956.

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2. According to Section 3, Paragraph 2 of the 7 January 1954 decree on the formation of the Ministry of Culture (Gesetzblatt, 1954), the establishment of branches of the Kreis council sections for culture is to be begun in MTS. A plan to this effect is to be worked out by 15 March 1956 by the Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, and is to contain provision for the gradual establishment within a given period of time of such branches, which will be strategically located; these branches are to be set up by 31 December 1956.

The chief purpose of these branches is to establish MTS as leading centers of mass cultural activity. They are to be responsible for the content of cultural-political work and are to organize permanent cultural work in brigade bases and villages within MTS areas.

By 29 February 1956, an order is to be issued on the work method in these branches. In agreement with the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, the Ministry of Education, and social organizations, mutual principles are to be worked out, by 29 February 1956, on a uniform program for cultural work in rural areas.

3. In cooperation with the Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, groups are to be established in MTS areas by 15 February 1956, in which the Kreis council cultural departments are to perform their main work as of 1 March 1956.

4. By 31 March 1956, plans are to be published for setting up week-end and other courses in MTS to train cultural officials, folk art specialists, and especially members of [LPG?] governing committees for cultural work in LPGs.

5. In 1956, six mobile clubs which will conduct cultural work in strategic areas and in more remote sections are to be started.

6. In cooperation with Bezirk and Kreis councils, and through the Bezirk and Kreis libraries, small libraries are to be set up in rural areas, to make a larger literary selection and specialized material available. From 1 April 1956, MTS libraries are to take over the function of the general public libraries in MTS-area communities. In agreement with the FDGL [Freier Deutscher Gewerkschaftsbund, Free German Trade Union Association] governing committee, measures are to be established by 31 March 1956 for making MTS libraries the central libraries of MTS areas.

7. In cooperation with the Folk Arts and Crafts Center (Zentralhaus fuer Volkskunst), special folk arts and crafts competitions are to be prepared in villages by 31 March 1956 for rural folk art groups and individual craftsmen (Einzelschaffende). "Festivals of Rural Folk Art and Crafts" are to be emphasized.

8. By April 1956, an institute for folk arts and crafts research is to be established in the Folk Arts and Crafts Center to foster the rural folk art and craft tradition.

9. The Bezirk and Kreis council departments for culture are to work out a plan, by 31 March 1956, for revising the work of folk music schools with the object of increasing their activity in rural areas, especially in MTS areas.

10. More attention is to be paid to current problems in socialized agriculture through increased production of popular science short films. Such films are to picture and popularize the experiences of the best MTS, VEGs, and LPGs, as well as the newest knowledge in agricultural science. Effective 1956, a short film series, called "Agricultural Innovations" is to be begun.

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At the same time, further improvement in the technical quality of copies of narrow-gauge sound film is to be undertaken. Cultural sections of Bezirk and Kreis councils are to take measures for further technical improvement in film showings in rural areas.

#### H. Officials of Bezirk and Kreis Councils

1. Early execution of all agricultural construction measures is to be ensured through early completion of project planning and work assignments in people-owned construction enterprises.
2. To further decrease building costs and ensure early execution of construction measures, the formation of construction brigades in LPGs and MTS is to be supported and furthered.
3. LPGs and MTS, which are carrying out construction through their own building brigades, are to be given priority in the distribution of the necessary building materials. In supplying building materials, local reserves are to be used, where possible.
4. By 28 February 1956, a plan for using local reserves -- broken brick (Ziegelsplit), slag, cinders, gravel, clay, quarry or rubble stone, etc. -- is to be worked out. On the basis of these plans, it is to be determined in which local enterprises the production of cinder block, raw clay bricks (Lehmbraten), and other building material is to be undertaken by 1 April 1956.
5. For executing construction with these materials, suitable projects are to be mutually decided upon by LPG, MTS, and VEGs.
6. In the Bezirke Frankfurt/Oder and Gera, the use of local building materials (blast-furnace slag) is to double that of 1955. In Bezirk Erfurt the extraction of tuff is to begin, so that a considerable part of the agricultural construction projects can be carried out with the use of this material in 1956.
7. A competition is to be organized in 1956 in people-owned construction enterprises which are carrying out rural building projects, with the purpose of achieving maximum decrease in building costs through use of new technology, prefabricated parts, local building materials, and improved operational organization. This competition is to be evaluated twice a year.
8. Construction managers from construction sections of Kreis councils are to be stationed in MTS in whose area extensive agriculture building projects will be carried on.  
  
The task of the construction manager will be to give full support to MTS and LPGs in the selection of sites, types of construction, building preparations, and in the exploitation of local building materials.
9. To improve the supply of animals for state fattening stations, 200 LPGs, as indicated, are to be selected by 31 March 1956, to sell their twice-vaccinated (against hog cholera) piglets to fattening stations in the following Bezirke: Rostock, 15; Schwerin, 10; Neubrandenburg, 5; Potsdam, 20; Frankfurt, 5; Cottbus, 15; Magdeburg, 30; Halle, 20; Erfurt, 15; Gera, 10; Dresden, 20; Leipzig, 20; and Karl-Marx-Stadt, 15.  
  
Delivery contracts for the entire year are to be concluded between state fattening stations and LPGs on the care and transfer of these animals.

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10. On the basis of data published by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry on preparing brigade accounts in LPGs, at least one sample brigade account is to be completed during the second half of 1956 in all Kreise.

I. Implementation

To control the implementation of the Fourth LPG Conference resolutions, reports are to be submitted by:

1. The ministers named in Parts A through H to Mr Paul Scholz, the representative of the Council of Ministers, by 31 March 1956.
2. The Bezirk council members to the Bezirk assembly, by 20 March 1956.
3. The Kreis council members to the Kreis assembly, by 10 March 1956.
4. Mayors to village representative assemblies, by 29 February 1956.

Democratic organizations are asked to thoroughly evaluate the resolutions of the Fourth LPG Conference and to make every effort to support LPGs in their development toward exemplary large-scale socialist enterprises.

[signed] Grotowohl  
Premier

The Council of Ministers of the  
German Democratic Republic

[signed] Reichelt  
Minister of Agriculture and Forestry

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